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A

# LIST OF MICMAC NAMES

OF

PLACES, RIVERS, ETC., IN NOVA SCOTIA.

COMPILED BY

ELIZABETH FRAME.



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ITY OF  
RNIA  
EGO

A  
LIST OF MICMAC NAMES  
OF  
PLACES, RIVERS, ETC., IN NOVA SCOTIA.

COMPILED BY  
ELIZABETH FRAME.

CAMBRIDGE:  
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## NOTE.

THE following list of Micmac names of places, rivers, etc., in Nova Scotia and neighborhood was compiled, at my request, by Miss Elizabeth Frame, of Shubenacadie, for the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and was duly presented at the meeting on June 9, 1892. She was aided in her labors by a Micmac Indian, as well as by the published works of Mr. Gesner and Dr. Rand. It is now printed at the expense of a gentleman of Cambridge, who is interested in Indian philology.

S. A. G.

Boston, August 20, 1892.



# LIST OF MICMAC NAMES

OF

PLACES, RIVERS, ETC.

**Ababe**, a boundary.  
**Abaktooë**, the great auk.  
**Abe**, a bow for an arrow.  
**Agamōk**, white ash.  
**Agoomākūn**, Apple River, Cumberland County.  
**Agoomākūnūk**, Sand River, Cumberland County.  
**Ah-mah-gops-ke-geek**, tumbling over rocks; Tangier River.  
**Ājeōk'chemin**, a blackberry.  
**Akkāda**, abundance of things; plenty of ground-nuts; hence *Acadie* (French).  
**Akūm**, a snow-shoe, raquette.  
**Amlaměkw'**, a mackerel.  
**Anesaak**, Salmon River.  
**Ansaakw**, New Harbor.  
**Apcheechkūmoochwāākade**, Duck land. Hence the French name Canard River.  
**Āpsiboogwěchk'**, Port le Bear.  
**Ascedik**, Lunenburg.  
**Asooemanōkse**, a creeping blackberry vine.  
**Aspatogon**, a headland on the Atlantic.

**Bāktabā'**, a bay.  
**Banook**, the first lake as you ascend a river.

**Banooōpskek**, opening out through rocks, as Penobscot.  
**Banoooskěk**, entrance into Bras d'Or Lake.  
**Banoskěk**, a water passage between two lakes.  
**Ba'pkoktě'k**, Argyle.  
**Bāpkook**, the birch bark will easily peel.  
**Bāslooāākāde**, St. Peter's Island, near Prince Edward Island.  
**Bookt**, the head of a bay.  
**Booktāwi'chk**, rum, from  
**Booktāoo**, fire; hence fire-water; alcohol.  
**Booktoulāygun**, fireworks; Toney River.  
**Booktowāāgūn**, Mill Creek on the River Hebert in Cumberland Co.  
**Boonāmookwōde**, Salmon River, Yarmouth.  
**Bōstoon**, America.  
**Bōstoonkāwaach**, an American.  
**Bōstoonkāwoo'lkw**, an American vessel.  
**Brooksake**, Charlottetown Harbor, Prince Edward Island.

**Cajj-booginek**, winding through the wilderness; River John.  
**Cālūgēt**, Carraget Harbor.

**Cansoke**, facing the frowning cliff;  
Canso.

**Caskumpec**, flowing through the  
sand; Caskumpec, P. E. Island.

**Caydybunnygek**, clam diggings;  
Boot Island, Horton.

**Chebookt**, Halifax, from Ūkehe-  
bookt, the largest harbor or bay.

**Cheemā**, to paddle a canoe.

**Chegao**, bass, a fish.

**Chegūmakūn**, a rattle, an Indian  
tambourine.

**Chijikwtook'**, Cornwallis River.

**Chikchowwegūnēchwā'-wōso-  
wēk'**, a rose.

**Chikchowwegūnējul**, roseberries;  
also the name of an orange.

**Chipchowwēch'**, a robin.

**Cwesomallygeek**, Hardwood  
Ridge, Cumberland.

**Ebēdēk**, Bedeque, P. E. Island.

**Ēlmūnākūncheech**, Little Sevoval  
River.

**Ēlsētkook'**, Bear River in Nova  
Scotia.

**Ēmsūk**, Port Jolli.

**Eppayguit**, anchored on the wave;  
Prince Edward Island.

**Ēskūmāgā**, to eat raw flesh; hence  
the name of the *eskimo* Indians,  
eaters of raw flesh.

**Ēskūmūnaak'**, Mount Skumunāk.

**Ēskūmūnaak**, Point Skimenack, in  
New Brunswick.

**Ēskwōdēk'**, Murray Harbor, P. E. I.

**Ēspākūmegēk**, high land. Green  
Hill, Pictou County.

**Gaspēch**, Gaspé; far into the wa-  
ter.

**Glooscap**, a manitou who dwelt in  
the Bay of Fundy, at Blomidon.

**Goolwagōpskooch**, Port George.

**Gul-wahgahgek**, the home of the  
sea-cow; Quaco, New Brunswick.

**Inskoomādeedich**, Lakeland, N.S.

**Kābēm**, the border of a lake.

**Kāgwēamkēk**, Port Hood.

**Kakagwēk**, a place of dried meat;  
now Hantsport, in Hants Co.

**Kākwōleegigūn**, a snow-bank.

**Kāleboo**, caribou.

**Kaleboode**, a shovel. Hence **Kālē-  
boo**, caribou, the shoveller, be-  
cause they shovel up the snow  
with their broad feet in digging  
down for the moss on which they  
feed.

**Katkooch'** and **Katkoolch'**, Brook-  
lyn, Queens Co., Nova Scotia.

**Keāskūnoo'gwējī**, a mighty chop-  
per, a fabulous being who cuts  
down trees; you hear the chop-  
ping, the workman is invisible,  
but the tree falls.

**Kēbamkeāk'**, Bathurst, on the Bay  
of Chaleur.

**Kēbāpskitk**, the stream that con-  
nects two lakes.

The six lakes on the Liverpool  
River, as you go up stream:

1. **Panook**.
2. **Kēdooskēk'**.
3. **Pushūgook'**.
4. **Kējimkoojik**.
5. **Imūtkaak**.
6. **Toobeadoogook**.

Lakes on Salmon River, east  
of Halifax:

1. **Ūsoogomūsoogwēdām'**.
2. **Milpāāch**.
3. **Utkoskwāāch**.
4. **Kloocheowpāāch**.
5. **Nēmchenokpāāch**.
6. **Noogoomkūbāā**.
7. **Mtābēs-wāākāde** (where  
mud-catfish abound).

On Port Medway River are:

1. **Banook**.
2. **Māligeāk'**.

**Kebbek**, narrows; Quebec.<sup>1</sup>  
**Kegūmoosk**, Little River, a branch of the Restigouche.  
**Kekwajoo**, a badger.  
**Kenomee**, Sandy Point, now Economy, in Colchester County.  
**Kesāpskūl**, Apesookaam Lake.  
**Kesegoo**, an aged man.  
**Kesegooaākw**, an aged porpoise or seal.  
**Kesegoo'e**, an aged bird.  
**Kesegooēesk**, an aged woman.  
**Kesegook**, an aged porcupine.  
**Kesegoo'nsk**, an aged beaver.  
**Kesegoo'sūm**, an aged dog.  
**Kesegoo'tkw**, an aged cow, moose, horse.  
**Keskāāk**, the wood is broad.  
**Kēskoospāāk**, Little River.  
**Kēsūtkwēk'**, the river is broad.  
**Kesokūdēk'**, the neighborhood of Archibald's Mills at Truro.  
**Kesookowōstoogwēk'**, Middle River, Pictou.  
**Kesookwōstoogwēk**, Little River, a branch of Sheet Harbor River.  
**Kespabōgea'chk**, Big Kespebadak'.  
**Kespoogwitk**, Land's End, Yarmouth.  
**Kikcheboogwēk**, Cavendish, Prince Edward Island.  
**Kitpoo**, an eagle.  
**Kitpooāākāde**, Cape Shubenacadie.

**Kitpoo-aykaddy**, a place of eagles, near the river Shubenacadie, now known as the Eagles' Nest.  
**Kloopskeāākāde**, Bird Island.  
**Kobet**, a beaver.  
**Kobetēk'**, Aylesford Bog.  
**Koo'koogwes'**, an owl.  
**Kookūmijenagwānāk'**, Cape Dolphin.  
**Koolpesoo'n**, an anchor.  
**Koolpijooik**, Pictiswick Harbor.  
**Koospēm**, a lake.  
**Kow-week**, porcupine quills.  
**Ktādoosōk**, Saguenay River.  
**Kūlok'wējook**, Mary Joseph, below Halifax.  
**Kūlūmooējemanōkse**, bilberry.  
**Kwebēk**, the head of the tide, now Bedford.  
**Kwemoodeech**, Pope's Harbor.  
**Kwēsomālegēk'**, a hard-wood Point, now Fort Lawrence.  
**Kwēsow-wāāk**, a cape of land.  
  
**Logūmkeegūn**, Shelburne.  
**Lūntook'**, deer.  
**Lūskūch**, Manadoo in Cape Breton.  
**Lustegooch**, Restigouche River.  
  
**Māākān**, Maccan River in Cumberland County.  
**Mabou**, a river in Cape Breton.  
**Madawāāk**, a point where two rivers come together.

<sup>1</sup> This is beyond question the origin of the name of the city of Quebec. The French pronounce *Quebec* not *kwe-bēk*, as the English do, but *kēb-bēk*, the exact pronunciation of the Indian word. The "Narrows," above Halifax Harbor, and a narrow place in the Liverpool River just below Milton, are thus named by the Indians. The syllable *kēb* or *kēp*, which is the same exactly in meaning, means to stop or impede, to choke up, etc. Many words begin with this syllable; as, *kēbejokūm*, to stop a hole; *kēbejokteskum*, to shut a door; *kēbadagwā'*, to be hoarse, to have the voice impeded; *kēbaadoo*, to stanch blood; *kebāpskitk*, the stream is obstructed by rocks; *kēbāmkoogwēk*, the mouth of the river is obstructed by sand thrown in by the waves; *kēbe-skoonei*, my nose is stopped; etc.

- Mågëpskegëchk'**, tumbling over large rocks; Gaspereaux River, in Horton, King's County.
- Mäjëöktëligün Lütkaamün**, an arrow.
- Mäkpāāk**, Malpeque, in P. E. I.
- Mäkpāächk**, first and second lakes on Moses River.
- Mälipkānch'**, a hazel-nut.
- Maskwe**, general name for bark.
- Maycobegilk**, end of the flowing (meaning the bound of the rushing water, the tide or bore); Cobequid, Truro, now Salmon River.
- Megāmaage**, Nova Scotia; land of the Miemacs.
- Mëgwā'ijik**, the Red Indians of Newfoundland.
- Mëgwas-ā'**, Belfast in P. E. Island.
- Mëmkāāk-kwësaawā'**, Pandora Point.
- Mënagwës'**, St. John, N. B.
- Menīchk**, a berry.
- Menoody**, a bay; Minudie, Cumberland County.
- Mëowch'**, a puss, a cat.
- Mës-adëk**, Long Island, Horton, Nova Scotia.
- Mëseebākünük'**, Sambro Cape.
- Mëspāāk**, Cape Mispek.
- Migoonaasit**, the out-spreader; a peacock.
- Mijeogün**, St. Lawrence River.
- Milāsük**, Bridgeport.
- Miläpskegëchk**, third lake on Moses River.
- Milchëgaach**, Meander River in Newport, Hants County.
- Mimkwöckün**, an acorn.
- Mimkwönmoose**, the oak.
- Misegümisk'**, Scraggy Lake.
- Mistoogook**, Mistouche River.
- Moināwā**, bear's meat.
- Moo-āümook**, he is from home.
- Möoin**, a bear.
- Möoinei'**, a bear-skin.
- Moosëgisk'**, the atmosphere.
- Mootpoon**, an animal's bed.
- Mpögün**, a bed.
- Misookweel**, the bark for building a canoe.
- 'Mtabān'**, mud bridge; Wolfville, Nova Scotia.
- Mtāe**, a beaver-skin.
- Mtoodook**, Little River, Mira, Cape Breton.
- Münagësünook'**, the Magdalen Islands.
- Münā'pskw**, a ledge of rocks.
- Mündoo**, Satan. This is the Algonkin name for the Great Spirit, but applied to the devil by the first Christian missionaries.
- Mündooāpskw**, Devil's Rock, now Jeddore Rock.
- Münëskoochk'**, Muddy Creek, Prince Edward Island.
- Münkwön'**, the rainbow.
- Musquodoboit**, sparkling water, a river in Halifax County.
- Näbüdagwën'igün**, a basket handle.
- Naokteboogooik**, big pond.
- Napan**, Napau in Cumberland Co.
- Napüskwa'**, to string beads.
- Nebe**, a leaf.
- Nëbëltook'**, Bartibog, name of a place.
- Negwëk**, Negwak Island.
- Nelegākünëk**, Newport River.
- Neliksaak**, Arichat.
- Nëmcheboogwëk'**, Middle River, Cape Breton.
- Nëmtakayāk'**, Nemtage River.
- Nepigiguit**, on Chaleur Bay.
- Nescām'**, Sable River, Nova Scotia.
- Nictahk**, forks; Nictau.
- Noel**, where the ice-cakes float loosely.

**Noogoomkeāk'**, Moses River.

**Noos-abon**, the river Noosaboon.

**'Ntooa'gwākūn**, Lot 49, Prince Edward Island.

**'Ntūbloo**, an army.

**Ogomkigeōk'**, Liverpool River, Nova Scotia.

**Oochaadooch**, Margaree River's mouth, Cape Breton.

**Oochogūm**, a point covered with oak.

**Olāstook**, St. John River, New Brunswick.

**Oonban**, a moose's bed.

**Oonegūn**, portage.

**Oonikskwōmkook**, Point Miskwe.

**Owoolākūmooōjit**, Famine, figuratively represented as an evil being.

**Owwōkūn**, Portage River, Miramichi, New Brunswick.

**Paakwaak**, stop here, you cannot go any further; Pockwock Lake.

**Pājedoobaachk**, Oyster Pond.

**Pālamooā' Seboo**, Salmon River, Truro.

**Paspēge'āk**, Paspebeek, Prospect.

**Pedeādēk**, ignis fatuus.

**Pege**, a side of meat, including all the ribs.

**Pēmānkeāk'**, Sand Island, Miramichi.

**Pentagouēt**, a river in New Brunswick.

**Pessyquid**, flowing squarely into the sea; Avon River in Windsor, Hants County.

**Pētkootkweāk'**, Peticodiac River.

**Petoobōk**, Bras d'Or Lake in Cape Breton.

**Pijenooiskāk**, La Have River.

**Piktook**, Pictou.

**Piktoo'jūk**, Martin's River, Colchester, Nova Scotia.

**Pogūmkēk'**, Pongket Harbor.

**Pōnhōōk**, the first lake in a chain.

**Poogūnikpēchk**, Pictou Harbor.

**Pookudapskwōde**, Cape Porcupine, on the Strait of Canso.

**Pootāleāwā'**, a basket.

**Pugooōpskook**, Owl's Head in Hants County.

**Pūlāmoo**, salmon.

**Pūlowecha Mūwego**, Partridge Island.

**Pūlow-wech**, a partridge.

**Saa-gaa-bun**, the Micmac potato.

**Saa-gaa-bun-akady**, the place where the Micmac potato grows (Shubenacadie).

**Sakpulkweāk**, there is wet snow and ice there.

**Sāsageem**, a bare foot.

**Sāsoo Goole**, Jesus Christ.

**Sebiskadākūncheech**, Miscou Gully, Cape Breton.

**Seboo**, a river.

**Sēbūnisk'**, Lockport, Nova Scotia.

**Sēgūbūnākāde**, Shubenacadie.

**Sesetkook**, Chezetcook.

**Sesip** or **Sesipcheech'**, a bird.

**Ses-mogūn**, sugar.

**Sigūnikt'**, Chignecto.

**Simkook**, Petite River in Lunenburg.

**Skūdākūmoochoowte**, Milky Way; the spirits' road.

**Stewiacke**, where the fresh water joins the salt; a river in Colchester County.

**Sūmskwēs**, Pumpkin Island.

**Sūnow'**, sugar maple.

**Tabooōstooētūn**, Rustico, P. E. I.

**Tāooōpskik**, the river runs out between rocks. Hence the name of the Annapolis River, Tāooōpskik.

**Tāwitk**, Petite Passage, N. S.

**Team**, a moose.



**Təsoḡwōde**, Pirate's Cove, on Canso Strait.

**Toetūnook'**, Avon River, Hants County.

**Tūlūḡādik**, Grand Lake, Halifax County.

**Ūkcheseebo**, a large river.

**Ūktākūmkook'**, Newfoundland.

**Ūkwtākūn**, starvation; in the Indian legends represented as a *quasi* demigod, whose howling and approach indicate death and destruction.

**Ūlgēdoo**, a mushroom.

**Ūlgēdook'**, Port Medway.

**Ūlnoo**, a man, as distinguished from all other animals.

**Ūlnooe**, to be a man, an Indian.

**Ūlnoojech**, the eyeball, the little Indian, *manikin*.

**Ūmkoome**, ice.

**Ūpkoo**, gum.

**Ūpkaweeḡān'**, Oak Point in Cornwallis.

**Ūpskāmcook**, Petite River in Hants County.

**Ūtkūbōk**, Chebogue.

**Wāḡobāḡītk'**, literally, the bay runs far up; hence Cobequid.

**Wēchkwēmkeāk'**, Mizzen Point.

**Wēdāwēlāk'**, the rain patters on the roof.

**Wegoon**, a bean.

**Weijooik**, Sheet Harbor.

**Weiōpsk**, a bead.

**Weisis**, a beast.

**Wəḡjowtik**, Point Prim.

**Wēūkūch'**, Margaree River, Cape Breton.

**Wiskūsōk**, **Milpāḡēch'**, **Nēnāsākūnēk'**, and **Pēdāwikipāāk** are Tangier Lakes.

**Wisūnawōn**, Gay's River, in Halifax County.

**Wōbabooōkchūk**, white waters, Elm Tree River.

**Wōbeākāde**, literally Swan land, now Broad River Lake.

**Wōjeechk**, Pereaux in Cornwallis.

**Wokūloopskūsow'**, Marble Head.

**Wōkūmeāk'**, Nine-Mile River in Hants County.

**Wokūmūtcook**, Middle River, Nova Scotia.

**Wōlūmkwāka'ḡūnūchk**, Port Mulgrave.

**Wōlunkāk'**, Beaver Harbor.

**Wōnpaak**, Cole Harbor.

**Wōsetūmooōk**, Newel River.

**Wōsokseḡēk'**, Martin's Point, near Londonderry, Colchester County, on Debert River.

**Wōsōḡwēsoo-ḡwōde**, Petite in Hants County, on the bay.

**Wōspēḡeāk'**, Shoal Bay.

**Wōspooijiktook**, among the seals; Herring Point, New Brunswick.

**Yap Team**, a bull moose.

## SOUND OF LETTERS IN MICMAC.

THE consonants are sounded as in English: **g** is always hard, as in *go*, *egg*, and **c** exactly like **k**; **ch** as in *church*; **h** following a vowel in the same syllable (as in **ahk**) is a soft guttural, like the German *ch* in *Ich*. There is no *f* in Micmac; when attempting to pronounce French or English words which contain this letter, the Indians give it the sound of *b* or *p*.

The vowels are sounded thus: **a**, as in *father*; **ā**, as in *fate*; **ǎ**, as in *fat*; **â**, as the second *a* in *abaft*; **e**, as in *me*; **ě** as in *met*; **ei**, as *i* in *pine*; **ĩ**, as *i* in *pín*; **o**, as in *no*; **ǫ** as in *not*; **u**, as in *tube*, *use*; **ũ**, as in *tub*; **oo**, as in *fool*, *move*; **ǫǫ** as in *good*, *wood*; **ow**, as in *now*. When any vowel is doubled, as **aa**, **āā**, **ee**, **ō**, the usual sound is prolonged, and takes the accent, but the place for the accent is the penult. '**M**' or '**N**' at the beginning of a word with the accent marked, is sounded without a vowel.

The following are examples of the peculiarity termed "holophrastic," where a single word stands for a sentence:—

**Boónseněch**, the sitting place, the cross-piece on which the paddler sits.

**Boóseněch**, let us take a trip by water, let us go in a canoe.

**Ėpkwǫse**, I have a shelter from the rain over my head.

**Kamâtk**, bushes yonder, beyond a cleared place.

**Něspe**, to be stopping in the wigwam to take care of it, while the others are away.

**Newǫpskitk**, the bed of the river is dry, and the rocks are bare.

**Wǫpk**, the morning light, — "the opening of the eye of the morning."

THE Micmac left no sculptured gods,  
No temples made of stone;  
In misty caves, in storm-tossed clouds,  
Manitou dwelt alone.

But names remain on hill and plain  
Of this once powerful race,  
And in those liquid Micmac words  
Their presence yet we trace

Where Aspatogon lifts her brow,  
Unblushing, to the sea;  
Where crashing ice-cakes dash and break  
On lonely Scatarie;

Where turbid waters seethe and foam  
Round Glooscap, Chebooktook;  
On Tuskett's Isles where sea-gulls rest,  
And heron on Panuke;

The rushing tides in Pesiquid,  
And Shubenacadie;  
The level meads of Tantramar;  
The falls of Konomee.

No Micmac now on Cobequid  
Hunts moose or caribou;  
And alien races change the names  
Which first were named by you.

E. F.







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